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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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Ms. Magalie R. Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Reply Comments in Support of Petition for Reconsideration of the  
Commission's Report and Order in IB Docket No. 95-41**

Dear Ms. Salas:

Columbia Communications Corporation ("Columbia") through undersigned counsel submits these brief reply comments in the referenced proceeding to express its support for the Petition for Reconsideration filed by PanAmSat Corporation ("PAS") in this proceeding. Like PAS, Columbia does not believe the Commission provided adequate notice in the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking<sup>1</sup> in this proceeding that it was considering allowing Comsat to provide U.S. domestic service through Intelsat and Inmarsat space segment simply by "waiving" its privileges and immunities. Besides the obvious procedural infirmity in violation of basic public notice principles embodied in the Administrative Procedure Act<sup>2</sup>, Columbia also believes this is an issue which is best considered in a separate proceeding better tailored to the specific yet

<sup>1</sup> See Amendment to the Commission's Regulatory Policies to Allow Non-U.S.-Licensed Space Stations to Provide Domestic and International Satellite Service in the United States, IB Docket No. 96-111 *et al.* (rel. July 18, 1997).

<sup>2</sup> U.S.C. § 553(b)(3).

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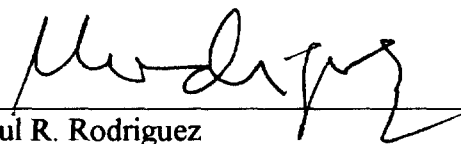
complicated issues which must be addressed in determining whether and how Comsat may be permitted to provide access to Intelsat and Inmarsat space segment for domestic U.S. services.

Columbia also agrees with PAS that Comsat's derivative immunity is not the only issue which needs to be considered in the context of Intelsat's and Inmarsat's access to the U.S. domestic market through Comsat. These entities' own privileges and immunities as well as their entrenched market power in most markets they serve are of equal or even greater consequence to a fair and competitive satellite marketplace than the derivative immunity enjoyed by Comsat. Columbia agrees that an entity such as Intelsat has so many opportunities for cross-subsidization, indeed its own charter requires uniformity of pricing which is nothing more than one service subsidizing another, that this issue must be carefully reviewed and considered in a public proceeding dedicated to this narrow focus.

For these reasons, Columbia supports the Petition for Reconsideration filed by PAS and respectfully requests that the Commission proceed with a separate proceeding on the issues discussed above.

Respectfully submitted,

COLUMBIA COMMUNICATIONS  
CORPORATION

By:   
Raul R. Rodriguez

Its Attorney

RRR/tjj

cc: Attached Service List

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Tim Jordan, do hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing letter from Columbia Communications Corporation was sent this 20th day of January, 1998, by first-class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to the following individuals:

- \* Regina Keeney  
Chief, International Bureau  
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\* By Hand Delivery

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Bethesda, MD 20817

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Jordan', written over a horizontal line.

Tim Jordan

\* By Hand Delivery